



A PARENT QUICK GUIDE TO The Ohio Improvement Process (OIP)

OVERVIEW

The Ohio Improvement Process (OIP) is Ohio's foundation for school improvement. The overall purpose of the OIP is for leadership teams to use data to drive decision-making that identifies strategies to improve teaching and learning.

The OIP involves team collaboration at the district, building, and teacher levels. Leadership teams may include stakeholders from the school and community, such as administrators, teachers, business members, and parents.

There are five steps in the OIP across which processes, structures, tools, and people are connected all with the intent of helping districts. They are:

1. Identify Critical Needs;
2. Research and Select Evidence-Based Practices;
3. Plan for Implementation;
4. Implement and Monitor; and
5. Examine, Reflect, Adjust.

TERMS

Vision: A shared understanding of what the district wants to create (picture of the future) by stakeholders who are committed to its realization.

Mission: The district's purpose or reason it exists. Fulfilling the mission is how a district realizes its vision.

Focused Plan: A blueprint for improvement based on identified needs that directs all district work and resources. It includes goals, strategies and monitoring indicators, and actions.



Monitoring: The practice that DLTs and BLTs use to supervise the plan in progress to ensure the tasks, actions and strategies are on-course and on-schedule in meeting goals as measured by progress against indicators.

Leadership Teams: District Leadership Team (DLT); Community School Leadership Team (CSLT); Building Leadership Teams (BLT): Teams of individuals who promote a culture of common expectations or commitment by maintaining a district-wide and school-wide focus on improving student achievement.

Stakeholder: Anyone who affects or is affected by the success of the district including students, teachers, paraprofessionals, support staff, school administrators, family members, school board members, community leaders, local business and industry representatives and citizens who live in the community(ies).

Teacher-based teams (TBTs): Teams comprised of teachers working together to improve instructional practice and student learning through shared work. TBTs follow a common set of guidelines described in a 5-step process connected directly to the focused goals, strategies and actions described in the school improvement plan.

Evidence-based Strategies: Programs, practices or activities that have been proven to improve student outcomes. Districts can be confident these strategies are likely to produce positive results when implemented as intended.

WHAT YOU MAY WANT TO KNOW

Community members may be asked to serve as a contributing member on DLTs and BLTs to collaborate as the team:

- Determine if the evidence-based strategies are having the expected outcomes;
- Examine and evaluate the implementation of adult practice and their impact on student performance;
- Reflect on successes to replicate and practices to improve; and
- Adjust as needed.

If asked to participate on a leadership team a parent would be asked to:



- Provide the perspective as a parent who is not a school personnel but maintain a broader perspective than of your individual student(s).
- Honor the norms of the team which may include:
 - Maintain confidentiality of any district or school information shared at the meeting;
 - Participate fully as an active member of the team;
 - Commit to attending scheduled meetings.

PARENT CONSIDERATIONS

Questions you may want to ask prior to committing to serve on the DLT or BLT in your district:

- What will I be asked to do? What are my responsibilities?
- How long am I committing to serve as a team member?
- Is the focused plan already developed and/or implemented?
- In what stage of the OIP is the district or building currently?

RESOURCES

Ohio Department of Education – www.education.ohio.gov

Ohio Leadership Advisor Council – www.Ohioleadership.org

State Support Team Region 5 – sstr5.org

Your local school district -